

Sclerocactus blainei Welsh & Thorne (1985)**BLAINE PINCUSHION****FAMILY:** *Cactaceae*, the cactus family.**SYNONYMS:** *Sclerocactus spinosior* ssp. *blainei***STATUS:****Heritage Program SENSITIVE LIST, ranks: G1G2Q S1****USFWS/ESA:** species of concern. **STATE OF NEVADA:** harvest regulated. **BLM:** Special Status Species in Nevada. **USFS:** none. **NNNPS:** watch list. **CITES:** Appendix II.**POPULATION CENSUS:** 3 occurrences mapped; total estimated individuals unknown, total estimated area unknown.**TREND:** unknown.**IMPACTS AND MAJOR THREATS:** Most cacti subject to horticultural collecting.**INVENTORY EFFORT:** Not yet systematically surveyed in Nevada. Most recent entered survey 1981, average year of last survey 1980. **Years since last entered survey** (percent of mapped records at various survey ages): **11-20 yrs:** 33.3%; **21-30 yrs:** 66.7%.**LAND MANAGEMENT** in decreasing predominance: U. S. Bureau of Land Management, private lands (?).**RANGE:** Nye County, Nevada; also in UT (?). Possible or probable **Nevada endemic**. Maximum **range dimension 88.7 km (55.1 mi)**. **Type specimen** collected in Nye County.**ELEVATIONS RECORDED (NEVADA):** 5100-5300 feet (1554-1615 meters).**HABITAT:** Alkaline calcareous and volcanic gravelly-clay soils in open valley bottom areas in the shadscale and lower sagebrush zones with *Sarcobatus vermiculatus*, *Pleuraphis jamesii*, *Atriplex confertifolia*, *Artemisia tridentata*, *Ericameria nauseosa*, etc.**PHENOLOGY:** flowering late-spring. Range of most frequent **survey months:** May-June.**LIFE-FORM AND HABIT:** cactus.**DESCRIPTION:** A spiny succulent with an oval stem, 3-15 cm tall. Pink-purplish flowers are borne at the tops of the stems in spring.**PHOTOGRAPHS:** none known.**ILLUSTRATIONS:** Welsh and Thorne (1985).**SPECIFIC REFERENCES:**Heil, K. D. and J. M. Porter. 1994. *Sclerocactus* (Cactaceae): a revision. *Haseltonia* 2: 20-46.Hochstaetter, F. 1992. Nieuwe combinaties in het geslacht *Sclerocactus*. *Succulenta* 74: 38-44.Welsh, S. L. and K. H. Thorne. 1985. New *Sclerocactus* (Cactaceae) from Nevada. *Great Basin Naturalist* 45: 553-555.